

[Improved Method for Stock Retrieval]

Abstract

This invention describes a method to efficiently identify to a worker needed boxes, totes or product for action. The invention does not require any special mechanical material handling equipment. The invention uses a battery powered addressable radio receiver (a "container pager") that is individually attached to containers, storage locations or product. A "host" system generates a signal which is transmitted to an individually addressed receiver. When this signal is received by the addressed receiver, the "container pager" will either activate a light or other signaling means to alert a worker. The worker identifies the container that is being addressed and takes appropriate action. A variation of the invention includes a means for the container pager itself to active a transmitter in the container pager (two way paging). This pager generated transmission is used to either acknowledgement of an action by the worker or to identify the location of the container through the receipt of the container pager signal by other receivers.